



## Navy begins Honorary Members Program

By Jim Garamone, American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Former White House press secretaries Marlin Fitzwater and Mike McCurry became honorary members of the destroyers USS *Arleigh Burke* (DDG 51) and USS *Mitscher* (DDG 57) respectively during a Pentagon ceremony March 24.

Fitzwater, who worked for Presidents Reagan and Bush, and McCurry, for President Clinton, were both clearly delighted with the honor.

"I'm really honored to receive this opportunity," Fitzwater said. "I've had many positive experiences with the Navy. In all the White House years, the number of times we turned to the Navy and Marines, they always responded in marvelous fashion."

McCurry thanked Navy Secretary Richard Danzig for his leadership to "connect the American people to our Sailors and Marines. It is a way to remember all our men and women in uniform and the fine job that they do," he said. "I'm looking to have some fun, too. The commander and I have talked about the ship's trip schedule and where I might be able to join them."

McCurry turned to Cmdr. Frank Pandolfe, captain of the *Mitscher* and said, "If you will teach me how to navigate straight and true, I'll teach you how to spin."

Danzig said the Navy and Marine Corps are about relationships. At its heart, he said, military service is about



Mike McCurry, White House Press Secretary to President Clinton from Jan. 1995 until Oct. 1998, was "adopted" by the crew of USS *Mitscher* (DDG 57) as part of the Navy's new "Honorary Member Program." Cmdr. Frank C. Pandolfe (right) is the ship's commanding officer. Secretary of the Navy Danzig announced the new public awareness initiative for the Navy and Marine Corps called "Honorary Member of a Crew or Company." U.S. Navy photo by Chief Photographer's Mate Dolores L Anglin

## Survey details harassment, Secretary Cohen calls for action

By OASD (public affairs)

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen announced March 24 that he is setting up a working group of senior leaders from the services to draft an action plan focusing on the measures necessary to address the problem of

harassment based on perceived sexual orientation.

The complete text of Cohen's memorandum is available at: <http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Mar2000>, scroll down to "News Articles", then click on "Survey Details Harassment, Cohen Calls for Action

Plan."

The IG's review, entitled "Report on the Military Environment with Respect to the Homosexual Conduct Policy," No. D-2000-101, is available online at <http://www.dodig.osd.mil/audit/reports/00reports.htm>.

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# Retroactive Combat Action Ribbon eligibility for naval veterans announced by SECNAV

By OASD (public affairs)

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Navy and Marine Corps veterans who served in combat in or after World War II are now eligible to receive the Combat Action Ribbon (CAR). Secretary of the Navy Richard Danzig has recently authorized this award for those who served in combat, but never received their CAR.

“At a time when we are focusing on the contributions of these great Americans, this seems especially fitting,” Danzig said.

In order to be eligible for the CAR, veterans must have participated in ground or surface combat after Dec. 6, 1941, but before March 1, 1961, and cannot already have been recognized for the same

participation.

Under Public Law 106-65, Danzig can award the CAR to veterans retroactively. The time period required for submission is being waived in all cases.

Danzig has designated two blocks of time for eligibility of the CAR:

World War II: Dec. 7, 1941 - April 14, 1946;

Korea: June 27, 1950 - July 27, 1954.

Navy Veterans who served during these periods may write directly to the Navy Awards Branch for settlement at:

Chief of Naval Operations  
(N09B33)  
2000 Navy Pentagon  
Washington, D.C.  
20350-2000

The following information must be provided:

Standard Form 180 or cover letter with the following information: full name, social security number, service number (if applicable), period of eligibility, unit assigned at the time, mailing address, and a copy of Naval Personnel Form 553 or Defense Department (DD) Form 214; DD-215 (if applicable).

Additional substantiating documentation (optional): copies of combat awards; copies of evaluations; muster sheets or orders showing assignment to the unit for the period requested.

A special section will handle these requests, but no other awards may be requested

in conjunction with the CAR. Only CAR requests dated after March 15, 2000, and in accordance with the prescribed guidance will be forwarded to the board for decision. Any prior requests must be resubmitted.

If a veteran cannot provide the required documentation, a request for personal record information must be submitted to the St. Louis Records Center before submitting the request to the Navy Awards Board.

If a veteran desires to address a different period of time, a request to review the period may be sent, with substantiating documentation, to the Navy Board of Decorations and Medals at the above address.

## Amphibious assault ship Iwo Jima christened

By OASD (public affairs)

WASHINGTON (NNS) — The U.S. Navy christened its newest amphibious assault ship, *Iwo Jima* (LHD 7), March 25, at Litton Ingalls Shipbuilding, Pascagoula, Miss.

*Iwo Jima* became the second amphibious warship named to honor the enduring legacy of the heroic participants who fought and dedicated their lives to the United States in the February 1945 Battle of Iwo Jima. The first ship named for the battle, *Iwo Jima* (LPH 2), was the lead ship of the LPH class of amphibious assault ships. It was built in the early 1960s as

the first “keel-up” amphibious assault ship and was decommissioned in January 1993.

James Bradley, son of Petty Officer Second Class John H. Bradley, delivered the ceremony’s principal address. The senior Bradley earned the Navy Cross and Purple Heart for extraordinary heroism on Iwo Jima, and was the longest living survivor among the six men shown in the Pulitzer Prize-winning Associated Press photo of a large American flag being raised over Mount Suribachi. This photo image has come to symbolize an epic struggle during which over

6,000 U.S. Marines lost their lives in taking the island from the Japanese, whose losses were estimated at 20,000. Hundreds of veterans from the actual battle, as well as former crewmembers of *Iwo Jima* (LPH 2) attended the ceremony.

Zandra Krulak, wife of retired former Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. Charles C. Krulak, served as ship’s sponsor. In the time-honored Navy tradition, Krulak broke a bottle of champagne across the bow to formally name the ship.

Navy Capt. John T. Nawrocki, a native of

Ambridge, Pa., and a 1975 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, is the prospective commanding officer of *Iwo Jima*. Built by Litton Ingalls Shipbuilding, the ship is 844 feet in length with a 106-foot beam. The ship has living areas for nearly 3,200 crewmembers and embarked troops, including accommodations for nearly 450 female officers, chiefs, and enlisted personnel. Two steam propulsion plants, developing a combined 70,000 horsepower, will drive the 40,500-ton ship to speeds in excess of 20 knots.

# Disney movie reflects on women's wartime role

By Journalist 2nd Class Sean A. Hughes, Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii (NNS) — Navy women taking part as extras in the production of Disney's movie "Pearl Harbor" may find themselves reenacting some of the most horrific scenes from that fateful Sunday morning on Dec. 7, 1941.

The casting company for "Pearl Harbor" was recently looking for extras at the Pearl Harbor marina. Hundreds of Sailors, Marines, family members and others who wanted a shot at being an extra in the movie attended the call.

"The only women we're hiring at the moment are for the roles of nurses," said Margaret Doversola, casting director in Hawaii for the movie currently in production. "In the active military, there

weren't women in combat. We're trying to keep it as real as possible."

If chosen as extras, the scenes they'll play will reflect the roles of their predecessors on that ill-fated day in U.S. history.

The Japanese attack left 2,235 servicemen and 68 civilians dead, leaving the medical community in Hawaii shorthanded, understaffed and ill-prepared for the sheer number of casualties they faced after the attack.

"People take Pearl Harbor for granted here because we pass it every day," said retired Petty Officer 1st Class Charlotte Mason, a former legalman with Navy Legal Service Office Pacific. "When I go past it, I feel a loss. I even get teary-eyed when I hear

some of the stories."

Mason, from Biloxi, Miss., said the possibility of playing a part in this movie — no matter how small — is a chance to be a part of history.

Although the women cast as extras will not have quite the workload of the military nurses of Dec. 7, 1941, filming days should keep the actors busy. Extras have been told to expect up to 12-hour days of filming for various scenes.

"They'll be used in scenes during the war, during the bombing and on the ships," said Bonnie Prior, assistant casting director. "It could be from one to five days for the extras."

"I came just to give it a shot and see if I could make it," said Storekeeper 3rd Class Jazmine Farrior, a supply clerk

with Naval Security Group Activity Pearl Harbor.

Farrior, a Franklin, Tenn., native, said she welcomes this opportunity. "It's something to put on my resume," said the four-year Navy veteran.

"We make our choices," Mason said. "Some women choose to be pioneers, the first to do something in the Navy. They pave the path for the rest of us, who follow. The women in the military of the future will go further than they ever thought they would go."

"Pearl Harbor" is being produced by Jerry Bruckheimer and directed by Michael Bay. Local Navy leaders consider the movie a great opportunity to educate a new generation of Americans about an important period in their nation's history.

## USS Hewitt



**USS Hewitt (DDG 966) fires a NATO Sea Sparrow missile during a training exercise off the coast of southern California.**  
U.S. Navy photo by Journalist 2nd Class Ty Swartz

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the personal relationships shipmates develop and their trust in each other.

"Another set of relationships that concerns us is between us as members of the military and civilian society as a whole," Danzig said. "As a relatively declining number of Americans have experience in military service, one problem we have is how we relay a sense of military experience to the public."

This was the beginning of the Navy's Honorary Members Program. Distinguished civilians become honorary members of a crew or a unit.

"They can carry the message of the ship or unit back to America," Danzig said. It works two ways. The honorary members can also visit the ship or unit and speak with the crew.

Other notables to be initiated soon are author Maya Angelou, San Diego Padres owner Larry Luchino, soccer star Mia Hamm, futurist Peter Schwartz, financier Dennis Bovin, football star Chad Hennings, and retired Marine Corps colonel and television star Ed McMahon.



# Wasp Sailors get their hearts pumping with Taebo at sea

By Journalist 3rd Class Kory M. Deur, USS Wasp Public Affairs

USS WASP, At Sea (NNS) — With almost 3,000 personnel on board and limited gym equipment, Sailors and Marines look for an alternative solution to running endless laps in USS *Wasp's* (LHD 1) hangar bay.

Thanks to Yeoman 1st Class Leo Godet and a few of his shipmates, they came up with an answer to the problem through the use of "Taebo."

Taebo combines the art of karate with the cardiovascular workout of aerobics.

"I really like doing Taebo," said Godet, a resident of Bristol, Conn. "I used to teach step aerobics at my other duty stations. So when a few people approached me about getting a program together, I knew Taebo was the best way to incorporate what everyone was looking for."

Corporal Christopher Day was

excited about the class because he could get a great workout in a short amount of time.

"I don't have a lot of time to wait for something to open up in the gym," said Day, from Wenatchee, Wash. "I wanted to get a good cardio workout to get my blood flowing. It's also a great stress reliever."

Godet agreed that Taebo is a great way to relieve stress.

"While people are doing the routine, they don't think about their work day," said Godet. "Their minds are on improving their bodies which really helps to reduce the tension."

So when Sailors and Marines on board *Wasp* return home after the six-month Mediterranean deployment and greet their family and friends, not only will they feel good about being home, they'll feel good about themselves as well.

## In naval history: April 7, 1942

The Navy begins accepting the enlistment of African Americans for general service in the reserve component of the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard. All ratings in the naval service were opened.

## Submarine Centennial history: April 7, 1979

The first Trident submarine, USS *Ohio* (SSBN 726) was launched from Groton, Conn. At 560 feet in length, the *Ohio*-class is the longest type of sub in the U.S. fleet.

For more information on the Submarine Centennial, go to <http://www.navy.mil> and click on "Submarine Centennial."

## On Navy/Marine Corps News

Look for the following stories and more on next week's show:

- \* The Chief of Naval Personnel releases the Navy's new physical readiness program;

- \* Naval Aviators in Norfolk, Va., undergo survival training refresher courses to prepare for emergencies at sea and on land;

- \* Marine Corps Amphibious Assault Vehicles get a new lease on life that makes them faster, tougher and more versatile;

- \* Sailors in Newport, R.I., learn vital damage control techniques in a very realistic trainer.

Compiled on tape #2000-14, the show is on its way to the fleet now.

## Taking time for safety



Aviation Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class Michael DeForge, Troy, N.Y., and Aviation Boatswain's Mate Airman Brian Milless from Mizzoula, Mont., check the hold-back bar on a F/A-18 Hornet, while director Airman Edgar Centenorios of York, Penn., signals the pilot before a launch from USS *George Washington* (CVN 73). The aircraft carrier and her embarked aircraft are participating in a Composite Training Unit Exercise (COMPTUEX) in the Gulf of Mexico.

U.S. Navy photo by Photographer's Mate 3rd Class Brian Fleske

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